shares of the company in the share market in England. At the present moment, we have purchased about Rs. 5 lakhs worth of shares. The company has got a share capital of something like three crores of rupees and it will be some time before all their shares are bought. But the company knows very well that steps will be taken to acquire control over the property which is now leased to it. What steps will have to be taken for the purpose will be done based on the legal opinion that will be obtained and upon certain matters of high policy in regard to the future of British concerns in India. If, as I take it, the underlying object of British companies and British concerns is to work in co-partnership and in full co-operation with the Government that may be constituted in British India, I have no doubt that the British concerns will voluntarily come to terms with the Government of Travancore, and the Government of India of the future, so that there might be no State action that might have to be taken, in regard to these concerns, belonging to people who are not nationals of India. That is a matter of high policy which will have to be decided by the Government to come. But whether the future national Government deals with that or not, every British concern here has been given the chance to come into co-operation with this Government because this Government has no objection to British talents being employed and even British capital, so long as that British talent and that British capital do not over-shadow the national interests and the Travancore policy. That the full control of policy and everything that appertains to the future working of the concern should be entirely at the disposal of the Travancore Government have been made clear not only to the K. D. H. P. Company, but to all the other British concerns working and functioning in the State.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know when this period expires?

PRESIDENT: It never expires.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know how many more years it will work?

PRESIDENT: For ever, for eternity.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether a portion of the Rest House at Munnar is now occupied by the Public Health Department?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: They have vacated the place.

Sasthamcottah Lake.

386. ❋ MR. M. K. NILAKANTAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government have included in their post-war reconstruction work, the work of joining Sasthamcottah Lake with Ashtamudi Lake by a canal which is only less than a mile in length?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: No.

MR. M. K. NILAKANTAN: May I know whether the Government have made an investigation on the matter?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The question will be investigated.

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